



May 20, 2005

HAND DELIVERED

Mr. Charles Terreni

Columbia, SC 29210

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Re: Convergia, Inc.

Chief Clerk of the Commission

101 Executive Center Drive

Case No. 2004-328-C Our File No. 03493-0001

Public Service Commission of South Carolina

Synergy Business Park, Saluda Building

Dear Mr. Terreni:

Enclosed for filing please find the Testimony of Petar Blagojevic on behalf of Convergia, Inc. The company does not intend to use telemarketing in South Carolina; therefore, no sample scripts are included. The Office of Regulatory Staff requested that Convergia provide them with updated financial statements. The unaudited financial statements for 2004 are attached as Exhibit 1 of the testimony. Please date-stamp the extra copies of the testimony as proof of filing and return them with our courier. By copy of this letter we are serving the same on the Office of Regulatory Staff.

If you have any questions, please have someone on your staff contact me.

Very truly yours,

ROBINSON, McFadden & Moore, P.C.

Bonnie D. Shealy

/bds **Enclosure** 

cc/enc: Elizabeth Manzoni , Esquire (via email & U.S. Mail)

Mr. Petar Blagojevic (U.S. Mail)

Dan F. Arnett, Chief of Staff of ORS (via U.S. Mail)

Mr. Eddie Akragron, ORS (via email)

Ms. Daphne Werts (via email)

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### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

In the Matter of the Application of	)		
Convergia, Inc. for a Certificate	)		
of Public Convenience and Necessity	j .	Docket No.	2004-328-C
to Provide Intrastate Resold Telecommunications	j .		200.020
and Data Services and for Alternative	j		
Regulation of Its Business Service Offerings	<b>´</b> )		

PREPARED TESTIMONY OF MR. PETAR BLAGOJEVIC ON BEHALF OF CONVERGIA, INC.

Convergia, Inc. 237 Hymus Boulevard Pointe Claire, Quebec H9R 5C9 Canada

Telephone:

514.693.6300

Facsimile:

514.693.6354

1	1.	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
2		A.	My name is Petar Blagojevic, and my business address is 237 Hymus Boulevard,
3			Pointe Claire, Quebec H9R-5C9, Canada.
4	2.	Q.	BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED?
5		A.	I am employed by Convergia, Inc. ("CONVERGIA" or "Company").
6	3.	Q.	WHAT IS YOUR POSITION WITH CONVERGIA?
7		A.	I am the Corporate Marketing Manager for Convergia.
8	4.	Q.	WHAT ARE YOUR JOB RESPONSIBLITIES?
9		A.	I am responsible for product development, advertising, pricing, placement and
10			business development. I also support our sales channels in both Canada and the
11			United States.
12	5.	Q.	COULD YOU PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOUR BACKGROUND?
13		A.	I have over 3 years of practical, hands-on marketing experience with Convergia. I am
14			a graduate of McGill University in Common & Civil Law. I am a member of the
15			New York and Massachusetts Bar.
16	6.	Q.	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?
17		A.	The purpose of my testimony is to present evidence in support of CONVERGIA'S
18			position that it has the ability to provide competitive resold interexchange
19			telecommunications services in the State of South Carolina, and to demonstrate why
20			the granting of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to CONVERGIA
21			is in the public interest.
22	7.	Q.	IS CONVERGIA AFFILIATED WITH ANY OTHER COMPANY?
23		A.	Convergia, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of:
/ /4			

1	Telsocomm Investments, Inc.
2	P.O. Box 71
3	Craigmuir Chambers
4	Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands
5	

### Convergia is affiliated with the following companies:

Convergia Argentina SA	Convergia Colombia S.A.
Cerrito 1130 piso 7A	JR. JUNIN 411 y MALECON
Capital Federal (1010)	PISO 4
Argentina	Of. 4 GUAYAQUIL
Office: 5411 48 12 6080	ECUADOR
	Tel: 59 34 2276686
Convergia Telecomunicações do Brasil	Convergia Peru SA
Ltda	Calle Los Libertadores 155 - Piso Dos -
Alameda Madeira, 258 suites 804/808	San Isidro - Lima Peru
	Telephone: 51 1 – 421 2002
Alphaville Industrial	
Barueri 06454-010	
São Paulo Brasil	
Office + 5511 4195.5685	
Convergia Chile SA	Convergia Ecuador SA
Providencia 1760, of. 2601. Santiago	JR. JUNIN 411 y MALECON
Telephone: 56 2 378 3566	PISO 4
	Of. 4 GUAYAQUIL
	ECUADOR
	Tel 59 34 2276686

Telecomunicaciones Convergia Bolivia S.A. Calle Federico Zuazo 1598 Edif. Park Inn Piso 11 P.O. Box 662 La Paz, Bolivia Tel: 591-719-05-711	Convergia de México, S.A. de C.V. San Lorenzo - 153 Pizo 6 Col. del Valle 03100 México D.F., México Tel: 011 52 55 55 59 06 71
CONVERGIA URUGUAY S.A.	Convergia Venezuela SA
Plaza independencia 811 - Montevideo	Avenida Francisco de Miranda, Torre
Uruguay	Delta, PH-B,
Office: 5411 48 12 6080	Urbanizacion Altamira, Caracas 1062,
	Venezuela
	Tel: 58 (212) 263-9933
	CONVERGIA NETWORKS INC.
	237 Hymus Boulevard
	Pointe-Claire, Quebec.
	Canada. H9R 5C7
	Phone: 514-693-6300

2 3 8. Q.

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- 8. Q. HAS CONVERGIA REGISTERED TO DO BUSINESS IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA?
- A. CONVERGIA was issued a Certificate of Authorization to transact business in the
  State of South Carolina by the Secretary of State on May 24, 2002, and has filed a
  copy of the Certificate with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina as part
  of this proceeding.
- 9 9. Q. BRIEFLY, WHAT IS THE NATURE OF CONVERGIA'S OPERATIONS?
- A. CONVERGIA was incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware on May 15,
  2000. The Company is a reseller of interexchange telecommunications and data
  services. CONVERGIA currently is authorized to provide interexchange
  telecommunications services in Arkansas, California Colorado, Delaware, Florida,
  Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Kansas, Maine, Maryland,

1			Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New
2			Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota,
3			Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont,
4			Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.
5	10.	Q.	PLEASE DESCRIBE THE SERVICES CONVERGIA PROPOSES TO OFFER?
6		A.	CONVERGIA initially proposes to offer resold switched and dedicated "One Plus"
7			and Toll Free interexchange telecommunications services. The Company proposes to
8			offer its service as an adjunct to its interstate services. In time, the Company may
9			provide other value-added interexchange telecommunications and data services. The
10			interexchange services are more fully described in the Interexchange Services Tariff,
11			which was filed with the Commission as Exhibit E_of the Company's Application
12			for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.
13	11.	Q.	WILL THE COMPANY TARGET A PARTICULAR MARKET?
14		A.	CONVERGIA proposes to offer intrastate interexchange and data services to
15			residential and commercial customers throughout the state of South Carolina.
16	12.	Q.	FROM WHOM DOES CONVERGIA OBTAIN ITS INTRASTATE LONG
17			DISTANCE SERVICES?
18		A.	CONVERGIA expects to purchase switching, transport and access services from
19			several South Carolina certificated carriers based on competitive service pricing
20			considerations.
21	13.	Q.	DOES CONVERGIA OWN ANY SWITCHING OR TRANSPORT FACILITES IN
22			SOUTH CAROLINA?
23		A.	No. CONVERGIA owns no switching equipment or transport facilities in South
24			Carolina. CONVERGIA will be relying on the technical network capabilities of its

- underlying carrier(s) for all network and transport facilities in the provision of access
  and egress if intrastate long distance calls.

  14. Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE COMPANY'S TROUBLE REPORTING
  PROCEDURES.
- 5 A. All service-related problems, including trouble reporting, may be directed to 6 Convergia's customer service department via the Company's toll-free number, 7 800.293.7778. Immediately upon report of service trouble, Convergia will contact 8 the designated service representative of the underlying carrier providing the network 9 service at issue to report the trouble and ascertain the estimated time of repair. The 10 underlying carrier will take corrective procedures and will report the resolution of the 11 trouble to Convergia. The Company will then contact the customer to verify that the 12 service has been restored.
- Convergia service representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern
  Time. Messages may be left for customer service staff from 8:01 p.m. to 7:59 a.m.

  Eastern Time. Messages received after normal business hours will be answered on
  the next business day. In the event of an emergency, customer service staff may be
  paged.
- 18 15. Q. HOW WILL THE COMPANY BILL ITS CUSTOMERS?
- A. Convergia will bill customers directly, via first class mail or electronic posting to a secure Internet site.
- 21 16. Q. HOW FREQUENTLY WILL BILLS BE RENDERED TO CUSTOMERS?
- A. Bills will be rendered on a monthly basis.
- 23 17. Q. HOW ARE BILLING DISPUTES RESOLVED?
- A. Convergia's customer service department is available to resolve any disputes.

1			Customers may reach the Company's customer service staff via its toll-free telephone
2			number, 800.293.7778, via facsimile at 514.693.6354, or by letter and the address
3			listed on the bill. Customers may escalate the dispute to the responsible Company
4			manager, if necessary, and may, of course, seek Commission intervention if
5			necessary.
6	18.	Q.	HOW ARE RATE AND SERVICE INFORMATION REQUESTS PROCESSED?
7		A.	CONVERGIA 's customer service representatives are prepared to respond to all rate
8			and service information requests.
9	19.	Q.	HOW ARE OPERATOR-ASSISTED AND DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE CALLS
10			PROCESSED?
11		A.	CONVERGIA provides directory assistance through its underlying carrier as an
12			ancillary service exclusively to its customers. Directory Assistance is accessible by
13			dialing "1", the area code of the desired number and "555-1212." CONVERGIA
14			does not provide alternative operator services.
15	20.	Q.	PLEASE DESCRIBE CONVERGIA'S PROPOSED SOUTH CAROLINA
16			TARIFFS.
17		A.	CONVERGIA 's proposed interexchange tariff establishes the rates, terms and
18			conditions of the Company's service offerings. The Company believes that its
19			services are competitive with similarly-situated service providers.
20	21.	Q.	DESCRIBE CONVERGIA'S ORGANIZATION?
21		A.	As the Corporate Marketing Manager, I direct the company's marketing operations. I
22			am assisted by a professional, technical and operations staff who possess marketing,
23			provisioning and operations responsibilities.

	~ ~	_	TTOTT DODG GOVERNO	A BEADTENIN AST	ADTI TOO	CERTAIN
l	22.	().	HOW DOES CONVERGI	A MAKKETANI	) SELL IIS	SERVICES?

A. Convergia plans to market its services through both inside sales staff and independent agents, using a variety of channels, including direct marketing, advertising, and the Internet. Applicant will not engage in multi-level marketing. Convergia does not intend to use telemarketing to sell its products in South Carolina. If the company's marketing strategy changes, we will submit a proposed telemarketing script to the Commission for review prior to marketing.

### 8 23. Q. DESCRIBE CONVERGIA 's INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE?

A. Convergia was established in 2000. The Company is concurrently authorized to provide service in 38 states and is seeking authority to provide resold interexchange telecommunications and data services in all states except Alaska. My staff and I possess long term telecommunications industry experience which will well serve the needs of CONVERGIA and its strategic plan.

14 24. Q. DESCRIBE CONVERGIA'S FINANCIAL ABILITY TO SERVE AS A RESALE
15 PROVIDER OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN SOUTH
16 CAROLINA?

The Office of Regulatory Staff requested that we submit updated financial statements which are attached as Exhibit 1. The Company has the ability support its operations and serve the public in the State of South Carolina. As a reseller of telecommunications services, Convergia's liabilities to its underlying carriers are incurred upon the rendering of service. Accordingly, the Company will require no additional capitalization nor resource expenditure to expand its operations in South Carolina.

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1	25.	Q.	WHERE IS CONVERGIA CURRENTLY AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE
2			SERVICE?
3		A.	CONVERGIA currently is authorized to provide interexchange telecommunications
4			services in Arkansas, California Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho,
5			Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts,
6			Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New
7			Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon,
8			Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia,
9			Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.
10	26.	Q.	HOW WILL GRANTING CONVERGIA'S CERTIFICATE AFFECT THE
11			AVAILABILITY OF AFFORDABLE LOCAL SERVICE?
12			By granting CONVERGIA 's certificate, the Commission will be fostering greater
13			competition in the interexchange telecommunications services market. With
14			additional competition, existing providers will strive to offer services at the lowest
15			rates and offer the most innovative features possible to attract new customers and
16			retain existing customer bases.
17	27.	Q.	HOW WILL SOUTH CAROLINA CONSUMERS BENEFIT FROM
18			CONVERGIA's SERVICES?
19		A.	CONVERGIA 's proposed services will allow customers to obtain very competitive
20			services and rates. Additionally, an increase in the traffic generated through the
21			provision of the Company's proposed intrastate services over existing facilities will
22			help improve the efficiency of those facilities and reduce the underlying carriers'
23			costs in provisioning such services. Lastly, access revenues will increase for local

exchange carriers, and the State of South Carolina will realize an increase in tax

1			revenue.
2	28.	Q.	HAS CONVERGIA REQUESTED ALTERNATIVE REGULATION OF ITS
3			LONG DISTANCE BUSINESS SERVICE, CONSUMER CARD AND
4			OPERATOR SERVICE OFFERINGS?
5		A.	Yes. CONVERGIA requests that the Commission regulate these services in
6			accordance with the principles and procedures established for alternative regulation
7			in Order Nos. 95-1734 and 96-55 in Docket No. 95-661-C which was approved for
8			AT&T and other similarly situated companies. It is our understanding that maximum
9			rates would be eliminated for these services. In addition, tariff filings are presumed
10			valid upon filing, subject to the Commission's right within seven days to begin an
11			investigation.
12			We understand that the alternative regulation orders were modified by Order No.
13			2001-997 in Docket No. 2000-407-C so that rate caps for operator-assisted calls
14			where a consumer uses a local exchange carrier's calling card to complete calls from
15			locations which have not selected that local exchange carrier as their toll provider
16			were reestablished. The order imposed a maximum cap of \$1.75 for operator
17			surcharges for such calls, and a maximum cap of \$0.35 related to the flat per-minute
18			rate associated with these calls.
19	29.	Q.	WILL THE COMPANY SUPPORT UNIVERSAL SERVICE AS REQUIRED?
20		A.	Yes, the Company will support Universal Service.
21	30.	Q.	HAS THE COMPANY REQUESTED ANY WAIVERS OF THE COMMISSION'S
22			REGULATIONS?
23		A.	Yes, we have specifically requested a waiver of the requirement of 26 S.C. Reg. 103-
24			610 that a carrier keep all records required by the Commission's rules and regulations

within the State of South Carolina. Since the company's corporate offices are in 1 Pointe Claire, Quebec, Canada, maintaining its books and records in South Carolina 2 would be unduly burdensome. We will have a registered agent in South Carolina and 3 4 will bear any costs associated with the Commission's inspection of its books and 5 records. 6 CONVERGIA seeks an exemption for any policy that might require a carrier to 7 8 maintain its financial records in conformance with USOA. As a competitive carrier, 9 CONVERGIA maintains its books in accordance with GAAP; and therefore, does not 10 possess the detailed cost data required by USOA. DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY? 11 33. Q.

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A.

Yes, it does.

## Convergia Group Balance Sheet: Convergia Inc. Statutory Currency USD Current Period: December 2004

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	767,411	eivable 683,862	oles 6,617	1,457,890	z,488,492 ns Equipment 2,488,492 pment 281,845 ant	Property and Equipment - Gross 2,772,277	Less: Accumulated Depreciation (1,007,518)	1,764,759	e (4,388,751)	1,250	(1 164 852)
Assets: Current Assets:	Cash	Accounts Receivable	Other Receivables	Current Assets	Property and Equipment: Communications Equipment Computer Equipment Office Equipment	Property and E	Less: Accum	Property and Equipment - Net	Loans Receivable	Other Assets	Total Accept

### Convergia Group Balance Sheet: Convergia Inc. Statutory Currency USD Current Period: December 2004

2004 Actuals

### Liabilities and Equity:

1,421,813 17,215	1,439,027	(143,576) 1, <b>295,451</b>		1 (2,460,304)	(2,460,303)	(1,164,852)
Current Liabilities: Accounts Payable and Accruals Other Liabilities	Current Liabilities	Deferred Tax Liability <b>Total Liabilities</b>	Shareholder's Equity	Stock Retained Earnings	Total Shareholders Equity	Total Liabilities and Equity

### 5/18/05

# Convergia Group Convergia Inc. Statutory Income Statement - Currency USD Current Period: December 2004 Category To Date

2004 Actuals

Total Trade Sales Total Sales	10,579,857 10,579,857
Cost of Sales: Purchases Cost of Sales	600'089'6
Gross Profit	899,848
Expenses:	
Selling, General and Admin Total Financial Expenses	3,103,413 21,414
Expenses	3,124,827
Income/(loss) Before Dividend and F/E	(2,224,979)
Income/(loss) before taxes	(2,224,979)
Net Income/(Loss) - Entity Net Income/(Loss)	(2,224,979) (2,224,979)